

Burlington County Almshouse
New Lisbon, Burlington County, New Jersey

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey
Seymour Williams, A.I.A., District Officer
133 Central Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey

Burlington County Almshouse
New Lisbon, Burlington County, New Jersey

Owner: Board of Chosen Freeholders of
Burlington County

Date of Erection: 1801

Architect: Caleb Newbold

Builders: Joseph Budd, Thomas Earl, Jr., Caleb Newbold,
and Daniel Hancock - Commissioners of
Freeholders

Present Condition: Burned March 30, 1937

Number of Stories: Two and one-half

Materials of Construction: Foundation - stone

Exterior walls - brick,
Flemish bond

Interior walls - plaster

Inside brick chimneys

Roof - pitch with dormers

Historical Data:

The first recorded move to establish a poor house in Burlington County is found in the minute book of the Board of Chosen Freeholders covering the years 1790-1830.

On May 9, 1798 a committee was appointed to report on the subject of the county poor house. Previous

to that time the poor were cared for by local townships under the direction of an Overseer of the Poor. Another committee was appointed at this same time to find a suitable situation. It was not until June 10, 1799 that any further activity on the part of these committees was recorded. On that date two locations were submitted - one on the farm of Benjamin Stockton about a mile from Mt. Holly and the other on a farm belonging to the estate of Josiah Gaskill on the Rancocas Creek about eight miles above Mt. Holly. This was the farm which was purchased by a new committee on August 3, 1799. It was in New Hanover Township and consisted of 472 acres; the price was 2500 pounds.

In a meeting held in January, 1800 plans were presented for the building; the one drawn by Caleb Newbold was accepted. Joseph Budd, Thomas Earl, Jr., Caleb Newbold, and Daniel Hancock were appointed commissioners to contract for and superintend the building. At a meeting of the Board of Freeholders January 27, 1802 the following detailed memorandum of the financial report was presented:

Materials for building poor house.....	\$6,000.00
Out Buildings, garden and grain yard...	1,110.42
Furniture for house and livestock.....	2,300.00
Supply for poor up to this time.....	2,279.77
	<u>\$11,690.19</u>

Some unimportant changes have been made to the interior of the ancient building. The exterior, however, is as much as it was when built in 1801.

Bibliography:

Ewan, N. R. "History of Burlington County
Almshouse at New Lisbon" Mt. Holly Herald
Issue of May 12, 1933

Nathan E. Budd
Supervising Historian

Approved:

Seymour Williams
SEYMOUR WILLIAMS, A.I.A.
District Officer

8/4/57